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See back page
MAZDA TOURS

Middle-East Experts
Jordan & Egypt

Yeltsin sacks Lebed as security chief

MOSCOW (AP) — President Boris Yeltsin ousted ambitious security chief Alexander Lebed yesterday, saying his behavior and outspokenness were damaging to the country.

A scowling Yeltsin, appearing on national television from the health spa where he is resting up for heart surgery, was angry as he spoke about Lebed and signed a decree removing him from his duties.

"I can't tolerate the situation any more," he said. "I have to relieve Gen. Lebed of his position as secretary of the Security Council."

The move came after weeks of bitter feuding between Lebed and other senior members of the government, culminating in charges this week that Lebed was plotting a coup.

Lebed's signing of a peace accord in Chechnya in August boosted his popularity among Russians, but met with harsh resistance from politicians, who accused him of selling out the Russian army.

His departure from the Kremlin should end the incessant bickering that has tied the government up in knots and created the widespread impression of chaos. It also will clear the way for Lebed to begin campaigning for the presidency job he has openly coveted, since Yeltsin is not expected to serve out his four-year term because of health problems.

But with Yeltsin unable to function fully because of his heart trouble, the government is likely to remain weak, beset by internal squabbling and external criticism, that will now be boosted by Lebed.

Lebed said he would "get some sleep" and then begin to "prepare for possible presidential elections."

He said at a news conference that he was not offended by his dismissal, saying, "I'm so thick-skinned, and I have long since stopped being offended."

Lebed blamed his ouster on Yeltsin's chief-of-staff Anatoly Chubais.

"I was very much in his way," he said.

Yeltsin did not say whether he believed the mutiny charges — denied firmly by Lebed and questioned by top lawmakers. But he accused him of excessive ambition and complained that Lebed, during the less than four months he was in the job, had made decisions without consulting the president and the rest of the government.

"During this time he made a series of mistakes which have been unacceptable for Russia and damaging," Yeltsin said. "There must be a united team. The team must work as a single fist."

Lebed attempted to resign several weeks ago, but at the time Yeltsin urged him to be patient and learn to get along with others.

But in light of recent developments, Yeltsin said it was clear Lebed had not learned to work with others and he was accepting his resignation.

Katsav to oversee the Arab sector

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu plans to appoint Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav to oversee the Arab sector, Channel 2 reported last night.

Netanyahu is expected to announce the appointment at today's cabinet meeting. He reportedly made the decision after recent complaints that he is out of touch with the Arab community.

Labor Party secretary-general MK Nissim Zivili said the appointment is a step backwards that would create a dangerous separation between Arabs and Jews.

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Kiryat Arba residents attempt to erect a barbed-wire fence around a piece of land adjoining the settlement. The work was stopped by the civil administration. (AP)

Netanyahu promises to advance settlement expansion plans

BILL HUTMAN

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu promised last night to personally push forward development plans for settlements in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, which settlement leaders had charged the government was holding up, sources at a meeting between the prime minister and settlement leaders said.

The prime minister agreed to specific development projects in the settlements, including both populating existing housing units that were kept empty under the previous government, and building new housing at several sites, the sources said.

Settlement leaders left the hour-long meeting saying that it would soon be apparent whether Netanyahu would act in accordance with his stated position that the Oslo Accords do not preclude expanding settlements.

Nissan Slomiansky, a senior member of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, said the council would put its anti-government protest plans announced earlier this week on hold because of the commitment given by Netanyahu.

"I feel much better now," Slomiansky said

after the meeting. "We explained the situation to the prime minister, and he gave us his word that things would be done. Now, we have to wait and see if he sticks to what he said."

"Things should start moving soon," Slomiansky said.

National Religious Party members also were present at the meeting.

"The test will be in what actions take place on the ground," NRP MK Hanan Porat said, afterwards.

He said participants agreed to keep secret the specifics of the projects.

"I believe it is only a matter of days before we will begin to see the positive results of this meeting," Porat said.

Hebron was not discussed at the meeting, the sources said. Earlier in the day, however, settlement leaders met in Jerusalem to make plans to protest any IDF redeployment in the city.

Despite Netanyahu's promises on settlement expansion, the council and several right-wing groups will likely go ahead with these protests,

including a large demonstration in Jerusalem at the end of the month, as the groups see the two issues as separate.

Hebron Jewish community spokesman Noam Arnon said the settlement leaders did not expect anything to happen soon with regard to redeployment, and therefore decided to wait until the end of the month to hold the demonstration.

Meanwhile, in Kiryat Arba, Jewish and Palestinian residents nearly came to blows after a group of Jewish residents tried to put a barbed-wire fence around an undeveloped tract of land adjoining the community.

Soldiers kept the two sides apart, and the settlers left the scene after the civil administration issued a stop-work order preventing them from building the fence, which the settlers claimed was on land within Kiryat Arba's jurisdiction.

Kiryat Arba Local Council head Zvi Katzover said the fence was meant to safeguard the community's land from Palestinians who might try to claim it, and said the civil administration had unfairly stopped the work.

Assad reportedly agrees to reopen talks

Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

SYRIAN President Hafez Assad has sent Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu a message agreeing to reopen peace talks, Channel 2 reported last night. Senior government sources said the talks will begin after the US presidential elections next month.

The Prime Minister's Office declined comment on the report.

The report said Netanyahu aide Dore Gold met with retired US diplomat Edward Djerejian, a former ambassador to both Syria and Israel, at the Allenby Bridge last night. Djerejian had just come from Damascus.

Djerejian, director of the Baker Institute for Public Policy at Rice University in Texas, had met recently with Assad and passed on his assessment of the situation to Gold. Djerejian's office in Texas said he had been lecturing in Jordan, but did not know of any visit to Syria.

In March 1995, Djerejian accompanied former US secretary of state James Baker to Damascus and Jerusalem on a secret shuttle mission to help restart talks between the two sides.

Netanyahu, meanwhile, reiterated

in a joint interview yesterday with *The Jordan Times* and the London-based *Al Hayat* that he did not feel bound by promises made by the previous government to withdraw from the Golan Heights, though he hinted that he would be willing to negotiate their future.

The offer to withdraw from the Golan, he said, "was not an agreement, it was a hypothetical idea put forward by the Israeli side... It was never consolidated into an agreement... It was never counter-signed," Netanyahu said.

Therefore, he said, the idea "was not legally binding for the state of Israel," but added he will "take it into consideration" when negotiations resume with Syria.

Netanyahu told the newspapers he would not start negotiations with Syria from "scratch."

"We have a framework and some ideas, but it is unrealistic to expect this government, which is elected with a different mandate, to assume automatically every position, especially hypothetical positions, adopted by a previous government."

French FM won't accompany Chirac; avoids obligatory EU Orient House visit

ELDAD BECK and DAVID MAKOVSKY

FRENCH Foreign Minister Herve de Charette will not accompany French President Jacques Chirac to Israel when he arrives here Monday as part of a six-day Middle East tour, because the government has refused to allow de Charette to visit Orient House.

De Charette will be part of Chirac's entourage, however, and will accompany him to Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Egypt.

Chirac will instead send Deputy

Health Minister Herve Gaymard to visit Orient House. According to French officials, this visit has the acquiescence of Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, and was discussed with Netanyahu's foreign policy adviser Dore Gold.

Chirac's spokeswoman, Catherine Colona, said yesterday that France did not want to have a confrontation over the issue of Chirac will instead send Deputy

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Both sides say Hebron deal close

JON IMMANUEL and news agencies

PALESTINIAN officials said last night they had resolved the main issues holding up the long-delayed Hebron redeployment and an agreement could be announced within 24 hours.

"There might be some problems in the drafting, but the issues have been resolved," said one official.

"If there are no problems in the drafting, within 24 hours there will be positive results and an agreement. The only remaining issue is the drafting of the protocol, which explains the steps of implementing the Hebron redeployment," he said.

Israel Radio reported last night that Israel had given up the right of hot pursuit in PA-controlled areas in Hebron.

Israeli spokesman Moshe Fogel declined comment, except to say: "Talks on both sides, Eilat and Taba, are continuing. We are at the point where both sides are trying to identify points of mutual understanding."

Earlier, the Taba talks had stopped for supper with some progress reported on civil matters in Hebron, little progress on security matters, and a promise to discuss other issues as part of a package deal.

Israeli negotiators were talking of reaching an agreement within hours — something they have been saying for days. The Palestinians were no longer saying there was a deadlock, but warned that the fundamental issue of not making any changes to the existing agreement on Hebron had not been fully accepted by Israel.

Talks on Wednesday night continued until 3 a.m. The Palestinians introduced the idea of a package deal to include Hebron and other issues. Israel rejected the idea, but agreed to discuss everything except Hebron together, after the Hebron talks are completed.

"They are discussing only Hebron and no other matters," an Israeli source close to the negotiators confirmed.

"Some other issues will be discussed afterward, and they will be resolved as a package deal," said chief negotiator Dan Shomron.

The Palestinians have not yet fully accepted that, saying further redeployment in the West Bank, the Gaza airport, release of prisoners, and safe passages between Gaza and the West Bank are matters that should already have been resolved. However, by raising these issues together with Hebron,

the Palestinians seemed to be indicating they could reconcile themselves to some compromise on Hebron, but expected to make gains elsewhere as compensation.

They were also beginning to justify the fact that they are conducting political-level talks on Hebron, though there had been no such talks after it was agreed to redeploy from other West Bank towns.

Palestinian steering committee chief Saeb Erekat called them "self-implementing mechanisms. That's what we offered. Serious engagement in producing results on the ground will be only through a protocol implementing the agreement."

This means defining exactly what civil powers Israel will have in the 20 percent of Hebron that Israel will control (H-2) and how the rule of engagement in the case of an attack on Israelis in or from H-1, the 80% controlled by Palestinian security forces, will be implemented.

Israeli officials would not go into details on what had been achieved, as nothing had been finalized, but sources close to the talks indicated that they might make some concessions to the Palestinians on the question of municipal control of areas around the Jewish buildings. They stressed that Israel's concern is security and there is no interest in creating a formal political division between H-1 and H-2.

Most Palestinians, however, consider Israel's security demands baseless, as it has been granted control over one-fifth of the city, even though Jews make up less than one percent of the population.

The intention now is to find ways of assuring security jointly in areas where Israel does not have exclusive security authority.

The prime minister's foreign policy adviser Dore Gold returned to Jerusalem for consultations on this matter, after the Palestinians said they would not allow the IDF to enter H-1 unilaterally for any reason.

Yesterday, Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat met with US Middle East coordinator Dennis Ross in Gaza. Following the meeting, Ross avoided making any statements that could be interpreted as preferring one side over the other.

"I feel both sides are honestly trying to find a solution... I am not pessimistic. I am realistic."

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Hariri: No separate peace

HILLEL KUTTLER
WASHINGTON

LEBANESE Prime Minister Rafik Hariri voiced confidence yesterday that Syria would not leave his country behind in an agreement with Israel, but conceded that a Damascus deal with Jerusalem takes precedence.

"Syria and Israel - the problems between them are much more important and much more strategic than the problem between Israel and Lebanon," Hariri said during an appearance at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Once Syria and Israel are on the verge of a deal, he said, "we are confident that... the Syrians will not sign the agreement. They will stop [at that] point and the Lebanese track will start. And when we agree, we will sign almost together."

The matter is academic for now, as Israeli-Syrian talks last week took place seven months ago and no agreement has been made on their resumption. Hariri is to meet with President Bill Clinton at the White House today. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was scheduled to host a reception for the premier last night.

Hariri rejected Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's "Lebanon First" proposal for an IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon, calling it "an old proposal" that avoids UN Security Council resolutions demanding that Israel vacate the area.

Hariri also said it was not in Lebanon's interest to cut a separate deal with Israel because that would work only to Israel's benefit.

"We want to live in peace with Israel," Hariri said. "And we are ready to work very hard to achieve this goal. But we cannot do it alone."

He maintained that Lebanon enjoys "very friendly relations" with Syria, which he said has helped "to restore the security" to Lebanon.

Syria to finance projects in Lebanon

BEIRUT (Reuters) - Syria will build a sports complex on the site of a former Israeli detention camp in southern Lebanon, Lebanese officials yesterday quoted President Hafez Assad as saying.

Officials close to outgoing parliament speaker Nabih Berri said Assad told him on Wednesday in Damascus that Syria would donate \$10 million for the complex in the village of Ansar and other projects.

Israel held thousands of Lebanese and Arab prisoners at Ansar camp until 1985, when it pulled out the bulk of its forces from Lebanon and set up the security zone.

Other projects Syria would fund included a museum and a commemorative stone in Kafr Kana, where Israeli shelling killed 103 civilians taking refuge at a UN base in April, the officials said.

Syria would also build a cultural center in Tyre, another in southeastern Lebanon, and an orphanage in the coastal village of Sarafand, the officials said.

Hariri also denied assertions by representatives of human rights groups at the forum that Syrian soldiers had abducted Lebanese civilians. He said Syrian President Hafez Assad would not "agree" to such behavior taking place.

Syrian Ambassador Walid Mualem was among the Washington-based envoys who attended Hariri's address.



Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat, US envoy Dennis Ross and UN coordinator Terje Larsen answer questions after their meeting in Arafat's office in Gaza City yesterday.

Arab councils strike to protest financial plight

DAVID RUDGE

MUNICIPAL services in the 53 Arab local councils were shut down yesterday to protest their financial plight.

Council leaders said the 24-hour strike was only the opening shot in their campaign to press the government to honor its commitments to bail them out.

The strike was called by the forum of Arab Council Heads, after repeated requests for government assistance for the authorities, which have accumulated deficits of NIS 350 million, failed to produce results.

The council leaders are also

angry about a Housing Ministry proposal to expand the Jewish population of the Galilee because of forecasts that Arabs will outnumber Jews there within 20 years.

"We hope that any development will not be at the expense of our land and development," said Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the forum.

"The issue of the Housing Ministry report is important, but even more pressing at the moment is the question of the plight of the municipalities," he said. "Many

councils are bankrupt and cannot provide municipal services. Many have been unable to pay the salaries of employees for several months.

"The strike, which was supported by all the councils, is only a warning, and the forum will meet again next week to decide on further action, unless there is a meeting beforehand with the prime minister," he added.

The council heads have called for an urgent meeting with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Interior Minister Eli Shussan, so far without receiving a reply.

After Hebron pullback, Netanyahu may face political fallout

ANALYSIS
DAVID MAKOVSKY

ASSUMING Israelis and Palestinians find a way to resolve their differences on Hebron redeployment, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will be left to grapple with the domestic political fallout of the deal.

Will he be able to hold his coalition together, or will he have no choice but to turn to a unity government with Labor?

Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan has threatened to pull Tsomet out of the government if redeployment takes place, and other ministers are also known to oppose it.

Moreover, the settlers are threatening to take to the streets against Netanyahu if he accepts a Hebron deal. Hebron settlers are convinced that there will be bloodshed after redeployment, and even Netanyahu is said to believe this cannot be ruled out.

Furthermore, coalition supporters may be increasingly unhappy to hear that any Hebron deal could be accompanied by a Palestinian insistence on implementing other parts of the Oslo accords, such as release of prisoners and a reaffirmation by Netanyahu there will be further redeployments.

The rift between Netanyahu and the Right is likely to grow, unless immediate compensatory steps on settlement expansion follow redeployment. But Netanyahu has little room to maneuver, since any move significant enough to please the settlers is bound to anger the Palestinians.

The question for Netanyahu's ideological right-wing allies is whether alienation must lead to a

break. If they feel weak, they may decide they have no political option but to stay inside the government. According to some on the right, however, bad Netanyahu's surrender to Oslo might be, it is preferable to having Labor back in the government.

Should Netanyahu, however, reach the conclusion that he has no alternative but a national unity government, sources suggest the change will not come while he is at his current nadir. He does not want it said that he needs Labor to bail him out and continue the peace process.

Rather, he would favor gaining as much momentum as possible from a Hebron deal, to improve his standing at home and abroad. Specifically, he would attend next month's Cairo economic summit, and perhaps follow it up with a tour of some Gulf states as a sign of international acceptance. This could be capped with a warm White House meeting during his scheduled trip to the US next month, which would stand in stark contrast to the chill that prevailed during the White House summit earlier this month.

Only then will Netanyahu feel his honor has been preserved, and he could enter a unity government from a position of strength and march with Labor to deal with all the difficulties of Oslo.

Some close to Netanyahu say he would prefer to work with Shimon Peres, thus diminishing the image of potential election opponent Ehud Barak as a knight in shining armor.

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In yesterday's daily Chance drawing the winning cards were the nine of spades, the eight of hearts, the seven of diamonds and the 10 of clubs.

In last night's weekly Paysis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 186426 won NIS 1 million, while ticket number 521019 was good for a car. Tickets numbered 628052, 851942, 166487, 830532, 676737, 337056, 301086 and 817904 all were good for NIS 5,000, while tickets ending in 33577, 06042, 89309, 53229, 74045, 55086, 51403, 48456, 04312, 74892, 32473, 37406, 71368, 80065, 66260, 95513, 85977, 19527 and 62652 all were good for NIS 1,000.

Those holding tickets ending in 668, 110, 708 and 484 all won NIS 100; in 85, 72, 19 and 91 NIS 30; in 06 and 89 NIS 20; and in 0 and 7, NIS 10.

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Hebron, Kiryat Arba women refuse to meet with Knesset committee

LIAT COLLINS

JEWISH women from Hebron and Kiryat Arba have turned down a request by the Knesset Committee on the Status of Women to tour the area and meet with them. The committee is chaired by MK Yael Dayan (Labor), who said yesterday that to the best of her knowledge this is the first time such a request by a Knesset committee has been rejected.

The heads of seven women's groups in Hebron and Kiryat Arba sent Dayan a letter thanking the committee for its interest in examining the problems close up, but saying they were "too busy and concerned with efforts to protect our lives and the lives of our children due to the threat that it will be decided to carry out the Peres-Arafat agreement to withdraw from Hebron, which is likely to cause a disaster."

The women said matters concerning the status of women are of secondary importance under these circumstances. The committee was scheduled to visit the area on Tuesday to meet with both Palestinian and Jewish residents.

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Friends of the Open University invites readers of The Jerusalem Post to the monthly meeting of the Shearim Club

Topic: "The Sinai Campaign: Forty Years After"

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The evening will take place on **Tuesday, October 29, 1996 at 7:30 p.m. at the Dan Hotel, Rehov Hayarkon, Tel Aviv.**

Program:
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Debate on the Sinai Campaign with:
Maj.-Gen. (Res.) Meir Amit - The Sinai Campaign: Planning vs. Performance
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הקדו מן אלא

Clinton to consider Arafat's request for US troops in Hebron

US President Bill Clinton stated Wednesday night that he would consider Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat's suggestion that American troops participate in an international force to monitor a Hebron agreement.

HILLEL KUTTNER
WASHINGTON

not being actively considered by the administration. Challenger Robert Dole said in the debate that he had not heard about Arafat's request, but that "the last thing we want to do is commit more forces anywhere."

Palestinian authority in the West Bank and that it could be carried out by them "in a good faith manner." "We cannot impose a peace on the Middle East. My position has always been that the job of the US was to minimize the risks of peace."

6 Palestinians arrested for holding weapons, stolen IDF uniforms

POLICE and the army arrested six Palestinians who had allegedly accumulated a cache of rifles, bullets, knives and stolen IDF uniforms, as well as inflammatory printed material. The arrests were made early yesterday after a joint force of policemen and soldiers found the cache during a search in the village of Azun, near Tulkarm.

The security forces have been on alert after intelligence warnings that Islamic groups were planning terrorist attacks. Three of the bombers who carried out the suicide bombings in February and March had dressed up as soldiers.

The two youths were arrested three weeks ago. When an older brother of one of them came to try to free him, the brother was also arrested, based on evidence given by the younger brother.

PM promises Jewish leaders 'interesting times' ahead

PERHAPS because they call themselves Lions of Judah, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu approached them diffidently. "Maybe some of you will decide to stay," he suggested yesterday to the 500 female leaders and fund-raisers from Jewish communities around the world, who were in Jerusalem this week for their first international conference.

1956 document reveals collusion of Britain and France with Israel on Suez attack

A SECRET document which proves that Britain and France actively colluded in Israel's 1956 attack on the Suez Canal has been found in Israel and will form the centerpiece of a BBC-TV program on Tuesday to mark the 40th anniversary of the Suez crisis.

DOUGLAS DAVIS
LONDON

The Israelis had returned to Israel with their copy the previous evening. The document, which was discovered by a BBC research team at the Ben-Gurion Archive at Sde Boker, provides proof that Eden lied when he told the House of Commons that he had no prior knowledge of the Israeli attack, which provided the pretext for the Anglo-French invasion in late October and early November of 1956.

year, Eden had declared emphatically, "There was not foreknowledge that Israel would attack Egypt. There was not." These were the last words Eden spoke in parliament before resigning due to poor health. He died shortly afterward.

Petition claims army's occupation of home is illegal

FOUR Arab residents of eastern Jerusalem petitioned the High Court of Justice yesterday, charging that the army has illegally occupied their house.

EVELYN GORDON

allowed to enter the house. All of their possessions are still there, the petition said. The house is very close to the border between Israel and the administered territories.

army's continued occupation of the house would be illegal even if the original seizure had been legal, since there is no longer any justification for it. The violence has abated, and most of the restrictions imposed by the army during the rioting have been eased, it said.

AACI CENTRAL REGION
Has postponed its Ra'anana Bazaar until April.

SOTHEBY'S
JERUSALEM FUND for ALYN GALA DINNER-DANCE & MINI ART AUCTION
Thursday, October 24, 1996
Hyatt Hotel, Jerusalem
Cocktails & Viewing: 6 p.m.
Dinner: 7:30 p.m. Auction: 9 p.m.
Including works of art, jewelry and Judaica by Israel's foremost artists and craftsmen - Marc Chagall, Michael Ende, David Gerstein, Yaakov Pins, Reuven Rubin, Anna Ticho and others.
Pre-bids accepted for the auction.
For information and/or reservations, contact: Mark Sherman, 02-624-7830.

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THE SERVICE DEPOTS ARE OPEN SUNDAY TO THURSDAY, 1:00 - 8:00 P.M.
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The Jerusalem Post
Hebron, Kiryat
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הלאה מן האצל

Did you really think a fair compromise on Bar-Ilan was around the corner?

THE Zameret Committee was set up after massive haredi riots on Jerusalem's Rehov Bar-Ilan. Its mandate: to find a way out of the impasse over the haredi demand that the street be closed to vehicular traffic on Shabbat. The committee is to submit its recommendations within the next week or so.

To judge by the latest leaks from the committee, a very real danger exists that not only will it choose to skirt the issue and pass the buck to other agencies and committees, but that in so doing, it will exacerbate the already-escalating conflict between a militant haredi minority and a hitherto quiescent non-observant majority.

Whether a major traffic artery should be closed to traffic on Shabbat is an important issue in itself. But Rehov Bar-Ilan has become more than that. For some time it has been both a symbol and a test case.

For the haredim, success in forcing the street's closure is seen as a test of their ability to translate their impressive political gains in the 1993 municipal elections in Jerusalem and in this year's national elections into concrete achievements.

For the non-observant it is seen as a test of the degree of haredi intolerance of the values and interests of other communities and individuals as the haredim begin to have the political power to make a choice between intolerance and tolerance.

In an even larger sense, the way in which the Bar-Ilan issue is decided will be an indicator of whether deteriorating relations between haredim and non-observant will become even worse; or whether the decision will mark a turning point in which representatives of the different sides show that they are capable of arriving at possibly painful but mutually accommodating compromises.

News from the committee speaks of an intention to pass the buck on closing Bar-Ilan and other streets to local authorities and town planning commissions, and to delineate criteria for when such major arteries passing through haredi neighbor-

YOSEF GOELL

hoods can be closed. There was earlier talk of finding a compromise by means of which the haredi demands for the closure of Bar-Ilan would be accommodated in return for permitting public bus and taxi transportation in non-religious neighborhoods on Shabbat; but this kind of compromise seems to have been abandoned.

This is to be regretted. For any **It looks as if the committee weighing the closure of the street will be passing the buck, making a bad situation worse**

recommendations not based on an honest compromise seeking a balance between opposing interests will simply deepen the conflict between the two sides.

IN THE COURSE of the committee's deliberations, it emerged that the recommendations of the previous Sturm Committee, which called for closing Bar-Ilan during Shabbat prayer hours, were based on erroneous - and possibly intentionally misleading - information from the Jerusalem Municipality.

The first figures claimed that an average of "only" 3,500 vehicles are driven through Bar-Ilan on Shabbat, 700 of them during prayer hours.

The Zameret Committee was subsequently told by shamed municipal sources that the true figures are 13,000 and 5,500 respectively.

There is no doubt that normal vehicular traffic on Shabbat is a painful thing for the haredi residents along the street; but the real figures indicate that any closure of Bar-Ilan on Shabbat would also constitute a painful inconvenience to very many non-observant resi-

dents of Jerusalem's northern neighborhoods.

An honest and courageous compromise means attempting to weigh pain against pain and inconvenience against inconvenience. Anything short of an optimal attempt to alloy and balance the pain and inconvenience of both sides would be a cop-out that would have very serious repercussions.

In the short run, any decision to close Rehov Bar-Ilan on Shabbat without palpable evidence of major haredi concessions to non-observant Jerusalemites on rescinding restrictions on public transport and on Shabbat entertainment would aggravate the current trend in which the most productive elements among the city's non-observant population are abandoning it.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Mayor Ehud Olmert should be fully aware of the catastrophic implications of such an abandonment during the very period in which the political future of Jerusalem is to be decided.

An atmosphere in which a growing number of non-observant Jerusalemites may feel constrained to move out of the city as a result of haredi intolerance can only persuade a growing number of Israelis that half of a Jerusalem that is no longer "their city" can be ceded to the Palestinians without much regret.

One-sided recommendations on the closure of Rehov Bar-Ilan will also serve as a signal to the country's non-observant majority that it is hopeless to strive for mutually beneficial accommodations with a militant haredi world, whose rabbinical and political leaders are "the enemy."

Such a conclusion would make resolution of the Bar-Ilan issue in their favor something of a Pyrrhic victory for the haredim, whose minority status and religious lifestyle renders them highly vulnerable to retaliation from a threatened majority who have come to see them as an adversary.

The writer comments on public affairs.



In the Swiss bank saga, just do the equations...

EMANUEL KLEIN

THERE is some unclaimed gold in the Swiss banks. It's worth a couple of billion dollars. Some of it is mine by right.

The problem has always been to identify how much belongs to me and what belongs to someone else.

I know that my entitlement was collected some time between 1944 and May 1945. By the Germans. Most of it was sent to a central collection agency and still bears the mark of the Reich's Central Bank.

Being an honest man, I am the first to admit that I have no accurate records of the time or place where the deposits were made. The only option left, therefore, is to try to quantify (or qualify?) my claim.

As precisely as possible, I was told that members of my family were very particular about their teeth. They had them fixed regularly. And they had lots of rings. And chains. And gold coins. And gold-rimmed glasses. And gold watches. And gold bars. Just in case they needed them in an emergency.

Of course they couldn't take all that stuff with them when they traveled abroad to the small Polish town of Oswiecim. But the German soldiers told them to just leave everything, and they would take care of what couldn't be carried.

The neighbors were helpful, too, with the goods. Without proper invoices and

receipts, it isn't easy to prepare a claim. But here I am doing it. On behalf of my family, who were otherwise disposed (of) about 50 years ago.

To be fair, the Swiss have always said we could have the gold if we could prove ownership.

Well, after due consideration, I

entitled to teethwise from my immediate family - without counting my more distant relatives, who no doubt would be much happier for me to have it rather than the Swiss bankers.

Now let's turn to the chains and rings.

My relatives suspected, of course, that they might be going

...and you'll come up with proof even a Swiss banker can understand

think I have hit upon the formula for proof.

HAVING no dentist friends - who does? - I don't know precisely how much gold goes into a filling. Or how much you need for a gold tooth. But there must be experts familiar with such details.

The dental equation would look like this: $((4GP + 9B \& S-F + 11B \& S-M) \times 21) \times Au.g = X$

Where GP stands for grandparents; B & S stands for Brothers and Sisters on F (father's) and M (mother's) side.

Multiply by 2 for two gold teeth each on average; then divide by 2 presuming - for we must be scrupulously fair - that only every second relative had gold teeth.

on a rather lengthy trip. That being the case, they wanted to look good, and there was the "you never know when you might need it" factor referred to earlier.

Therefore, it is quite reasonable to assume:

2 rings
2 chains
1 watch
10 gold coins
1/4 pair gold-rimmed glasses (let's suppose they weren't so fashionable in those days) per person, and 4 gold bars (two per family).

Our trinkets equation therefore should be:

$((2R + 2C + 1W + 10G + 1/4 B) \times 2) \times Au.g = Y$

Again, I don't know the quantity of Au.g in each of these items, but there must be some Swiss or German expert who should have a pretty accurate idea - some, after all, had a lot of experience in this area. Just average figures

would suffice. Once we know the gold content of the various items we should get a very good idea of what I am entitled to under X and Y.

Now the only other thing left to calculate is the quantity of gold my family left behind.

Paintings, rugs, silver, antiques and other objects? Let's leave them out of the picture. Talking about them would just muddy the waters. So let's not get confused. Let's just concentrate on gold.

Our third formula, which completes my claim, should therefore look as follows:

$((SA - (X + Y) \times 3) + [SS - ((X + Y) \times 5) + [BC - (X + Y) \times 2]]) \times Au.g = Z$

Here SA stands for Stashed Away (with gentle neighbors, at least three times (X+Y). SS stands for Safekeeping by Soldiers (at least five times X+Y). BC stands for Bribery and Corruption (handed over in exchange for water, bread and miscellaneous donations to German soldiers, at least twice (X+Y).

So that's it. Quite simple really. What's really unfortunate is that none of the 24 members of my family can make it to Switzerland this year to lay their claim.

And if the Swiss bankers hold out for another 10 or 15 years, I won't make it either.

The writer is a businessman who lives in Sydney. (The Australian)

Nachshon's legacy

ESTHER WACHSMAN

NEXT week will mark two years since the kidnapping and murder of our son Nachshon.

At a memorial ceremony in the Yeshurun Synagogue in Jerusalem at 5 p.m. on Tuesday we will be announcing the opening of a Center for Understanding and Tolerance, to be called Moreshet Nachshon.

I found myself torn between making Nachshon's *yahzeit* privately within our circle of family and friends, and holding a mass memorial service in the presence of notables and all the people of Israel. A lot of thoughts went around in my head.

Finally, I couldn't help remembering those agonizing days in October, 1994, when all of our fellow Jews, both in Israel and in the Diaspora, actively shared our pain.

All the country prayed with us, hoped with us, and later cried and mourned with us in our tragedy. Left-wingers and right-wingers, religious and secular Jews, old and young, rich and poor, Sephardi and Ashkenazi - all were concerned with the fate of one Jewish soul.

Many people may still remember how during that fateful week Israel Radio began each morning's broadcast with the words "Good morning, Israel, we are all the Wachsmans family."

That unprecedented unity and

solidarity among our people at that time made it obvious to me that Nachshon was everybody's son, everybody's brother, everybody's friend.

NACHSHON was a child who abhorred strife, encouraged reconciliation and, with his eternal smile, served as morale-booster to his friends and fellow soldiers. He volunteered faithfully at the Magen David Adom ambulance station, worked with Ethiopian immigrants and dedicated endless hours to his fellow.

He left us tolerance and understanding and love for our people

Ezra youth group, but disdained praise and struggled off accolades. It is thus somehow fitting that this boy should become the symbol of unconditional love of one Jew for his fellow.

For Nachshon's family and friends, a day marking the anniversary of his death is redundant. Not a day goes by when Nachshon is not in our hearts and memories. His pictures on the wall, his empty chair at the Shabbat table, his absence during holidays and at

family celebrations are a constant source of grief and emptiness, a void that can never be filled.

That is our private grief. But it is fitting that we should embrace all our countrymen, who were as one together with us, and invite them to share in commemorating the end of Nachshon's 19 years of life.

Love of our people was the legacy Nachshon left behind. We have made it our mission to continue to fulfill that legacy through a center that will further tolerance and understanding in Nachshon's memory.

Solidarity doesn't mean having identical viewpoints or ideals. Unity doesn't mean all of us sharing the same opinions or goals. Unity and solidarity, as we experienced it during that week in 1994, means a common commitment to the Jewish people, a Jew's love and understanding for his fellow Jew, and discussion and disagreement marked by respect, tolerance and civilized rhetoric.

It is our hope that Nachshon, whom we believe sits beside the heavenly throne, will serve as a messenger, fostering "love, brotherhood, peace and friendship" among our people.

The writer's son Nachshon was kidnapped and killed by Hamas terrorists in October 1994.

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At least 78 dead, 127 injured in Guatemala stadium tragedy

SERGIO CARRASCO GUATEMALA CITY

Soccer fans stampeded before a World Cup qualifying match, crushing and smothering one another in one of the worst sports tragedies in years...

World Cup tournament. An hour before the game, fans dressed in Guatemala's national colors of blue and white were even perched on the press box and stadium walls...



Bodies of people trampled to death lay in Guatemala's national stadium on Wednesday. More than 80 people were reported killed when fans without tickets tried to barge into the stadium to see the Guatemala vs. Costa Rica World Cup qualifying match.

Uzbek forces join battlefront, raise Afghan stakes

KURT SCHORCK CHARIKAR, Afghanistan

THE forces of powerful Uzbek chief Abdul Rashid Dostum rolled onto the front line of Afghanistan's latest battle for power yesterday, dramatically escalating a war between the Taliban militia and the government it ousted...

Clinton lead looks awesome, but Dole full of fight

SAN DIEGO (Reuters) - President Bill Clinton and Republican Bob Dole, charged into the home stretch of the November 5 election campaign yesterday with Clinton looking unbeatable but Dole still full of fight.

Election Day. Buoyed by his debate performance, Clinton went for a jog on the beach yesterday morning and was making more campaign stops in California later in the day.

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our mother and grandmother LIBBY WIND LANDE...

AMIT WOMEN mourns the loss of our long-time devoted member LIBBY WIND LANDE...

We sadly announce the passing of our mother, grandmother and baby-sitter ERNA ROTH...

The unveiling of the tombstone of the late KARIN MISSULAWIN will take place on Sunday, October 20, at 4 p.m. at the new Ra'anana Cemetery.

On the first yahrzeit since the reinterment in Israel of ESTHER LEAH SHECKMAN We wish to announce the unveiling of a monument...

The consecration of the tombstone of our very dear Dr. RUSSELL KENNETH EDWARDS will take place on Sunday, October 20, 1996, at 3:30 p.m.

German Jewish community denounces Scientology ads

FRANKFURT (AP) - Germany's top Jewish leader said he was insulted by a Church of Scientology advertisement in the New York Times yesterday that compares Germany's treatment of Scientologists today to Nazi persecution of the Jews.

NEWS IN BRIEF

- Ebola death toll rises to 11 in Gabon BRAZZAVILLE, Congo (AP) - The death toll from an outbreak of the Ebola virus in Gabon has risen to 11... Iraqi Kurd threatens to enlist Baghdad's aid SALAHUDDIN, Iraq (Reuters) - Kurdish chief Minister Massoud Barzani threatened to ask the Iraqi government for further help...

BEIT MORASHA OF JERUSALEM Center for Advanced Jewish Studies בית מורשה בירושלים מרכז ללימודים גבוהים ביהדות... MORESHET NACHSHON THE NACHSHON WACHSMAN HERITAGE CENTER FOR TOLERANCE AND UNDERSTANDING

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הכרזה מן האולם

NEWS IN FOCUS

Friday, October 18, 1996

Past, and present, ties with our neighbors



While King Hussein and Yitzhak Rabin struck up a close friendship in both public and private circles, Yasser Arafat and Binyamin Netanyahu have not seen eye-to-eye on many occasions.



(Brian Hender, AP)

Arabs are cutting off relations with Israel

FOR several months, Ahmed Tala'at has been a lone wolf in the Egyptian press. His message: Give Prime Minister Netanyahu a chance.

These days, Tala'at, a lawyer and analyst with the Ibn Khaldoun Center in Cairo, has stopped defending the Israeli prime minister. "In only three months, Netanyahu has caused a [level of] opposition from the Arab world as well as the rest of the international community that is unprecedented," he says. "This is a critical situation."

It's a far cry from Netanyahu's visit to Cairo on July 18, where both Egyptian and Israeli government aides say the prime minister convinced President Hosni Mubarak that he would take significant steps to implement the interim agreements with the Palestinians and resume peace talks with the Syrians.

Within weeks of the visit, however, Mubarak complained that he had been tricked by Netanyahu, and relations with Egypt and the entire Arab world have since plummeted.

Today, Arab analysts agree with their counterparts in Jerusalem that the attacks on Netanyahu are nearing hysteria. Morocco's King Hassan has ordered his government to freeze relations with Israel. He was followed by Tunisia and Qatar.

Arab media attacks on Netanyahu have intensified. Syria and Egyptian newspapers are warning the prime minister of war. The semi-official Egyptian *Al-Ahram* daily quoted Defense Minister Mohamed Hussein Tantawi as warning Egyptian youth against Israeli attempts to recruit them as spies. The imam of the Mohammed mosque in the Saudi city of Medina called on Moslems to stop Israel from what he called plans to destroy Al-Aksa Mosque and build a Jewish temple.

Arab regimes have even loosened their ban on street demonstrations. In Cairo, authorities have allowed anti-Israel marches after Friday mosque prayers, something they prevented in the past. Tala'at says that privately Arab leaders acknowledge that Netanyahu is proceeding with the peace process. What gets their goat, he says, and drives their constituents wild is the strident style of the prime minister.

"He talks too much," Tala'at, one of the few Egyptian intellectuals who has visited Israel, says. "His declarations make the blood of the people boil. Then, the journalists pick up on this even though most of them don't know what's going on."

Another problem, Tala'at says, is that Netanyahu doesn't seem to want to inspire Arab confidence, particularly over his approach to the Palestinians. "If Israel can't be committed to the Palestinians, then what worth will be his commitments to the rest of the Arab world?" he asks.

Even Jordan has been swept up in the hostile attitude toward Israel. "If there isn't peace in the region, Prime Minister Netanyahu will have to carry a gas mask like in the Gulf war," King

Arab attacks on Binyamin Netanyahu are approaching levels of hysteria, Steve Rodan reports

Hussein told the London-based Arabic daily *Al-Sharq al-Awsat*.

Arab diplomats and analysts say the king, who welcomed Netanyahu's election in June, has decided that it is better to join the anti-Israel bashers rather than confront them. "The king still likes Netanyahu," a leading Arab analyst who did not want to be named says. "But he can't withstand the Arab pressure. And today everybody in the Arab world, even the aloof King Hassan, wants to reap political capital by attacking Netanyahu."

INDEED, the diplomats say, Netanyahu is regarded by the Arab world as being no match for Palestinian Authority chief Yasser Arafat.

In contrast to the assessment of aides to the prime minister, Arab diplomats saw Arafat, rather than Netanyahu, as the clear victor emerging from the Washington summit earlier this month.

As the diplomats put it, an unpopular Arafat managed within a week to recover his mantle of leadership among Palestinians and win political and financial support from most of the international community as he confronted the Israeli army in the West Bank and Gaza.

Nabil Shaath, PA minister responsible for liaison with the international community, agrees. "Europe did a great thing," Shaath says. "At the outset of the crisis, we didn't have a penny. Our hospitals were without medicine. In these difficult days, we received \$50 million."

Privately, Israeli government analysts agree that the situation has gone beyond their worst scenarios. Israel, they say, is no longer invited to forthcoming conferences in the Arab world, the Cairo economic parley next month being the exception. These include a tourism conference planned in Tunis and a health conference in Morocco scheduled within the next two months.

In some cases, Arab representatives have asked their Israeli counterparts to attend, but as part of a European delegation. The Israelis have refused.

"No project that is on-going has been canceled, but nothing new is being added," an Israeli official says. "Instead, we are spending a lot of time explaining our policies so that things don't break down completely."

But many of the government analysts are convinced that the Arab threats are largely bluster. Israeli intelligence, intensified in the last few months, has not revealed any signs that the Arabs, particularly Syria, are preparing for

imminent war, defense sources say. Arab rulers are said to remain impressed with Israeli military strength and at private meetings with their Israeli counterparts. Arab security officials often raise the issue of Israel's nuclear deterrence.

"This is psychological warfare," a senior government analyst close to Netanyahu says. "The Egyptians have linked normalization to a return to the 1967 borders. They see this is not happening and are now creating tension. But it is clear that neither Egypt nor Syria has a war option right now. To give in to their demands would only encourage them to rattle the saber again next time they want something. And, they will want more."

NASSER Eddin Nashashibi, for years a leading Arab journalist and adviser to Arab rulers, says the blame for the current crisis does not rest on Netanyahu alone. "The Arabs started attacking Netanyahu before he disclosed his cards," he says in his eastern Jerusalem home. "Netanyahu is to blame because he made statements that no statesman would make. He was too blunt to utter certain sentences and policies hostile to the Arabs in general and to the Palestinians in particular."

Nashashibi says the prime minister has to learn that he can't isolate Israel's relations with the Palestinians from those with the rest of the Arab world, particularly Jordan.

"Palestine is an eternal wound in the Arab body," he says. "Whatever happens in Jerusalem echoes in Amman, Salt, Irbid, Beirut and Baghdad."

Most Arab diplomats expect the anti-Netanyahu campaign to continue, although it might abate during the Cairo economic conference, scheduled for November. The current attacks on Israel divert attention from the unpopular Arab regimes, most of which are plagued by failing economies and rising Islamic extremism.

The goal of the campaign is two-fold, the diplomats say. The short-term aim is to force Netanyahu to order an IDF redeployment in Hebron. The longer-term goal is to topple the prime minister. Several leading Palestinian officials acknowledge that they were disappointed that the gun battles between Palestinian soldiers and Israeli troops did not lead to the passage of a motion of no-confidence in Netanyahu.

"The truth is we thought we gave Labor an excellent chance to get rid of Netanyahu and it didn't seize the opportunity," a senior PA official says. "Some of us are saying that we spilled our blood to help Labor and it never helped us in return."

Arab analysts say that dream might not be far off. Egypt's Tala'at says Netanyahu will be forced to share power by the end of the year. "Netanyahu will be obliged to take the Labor Party as a coalition partner within three months," he says. "His politics are no longer popular."

A friendship that conquered all

Crises were defused and a treaty was signed because Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein trusted each other, Moshe Zak writes

THE 20-year relationship between Yitzhak Rabin and Jordan's King Hussein were marked by mutual trust. That trust was expressed in the king's request to Rabin that the contents of the 1994 Washington declaration officially ending the state of war between Jordan and Israel not be revealed to the foreign ministries of the two countries until the day it was signed.

Rabin faithfully fulfilled the king's request and, only the night before the declaration was signed, invited Secretary of State Warren Christopher to his Washington hotel to show him the declaration which was to be signed the next day at the White House.

The king was especially fond of Rabin even before their first meeting, held immediately after Rabin's election as prime minister in 1974. The king knew that, as ambassador to the US, Rabin was involved in the American-Israeli effort to turn back Syrian tanks which had crossed into Jordan in September 1970 to make contact with Yasser Arafat's "free government" at Irbid.

Hussein opposed Yigal Allon's proposal for the partial return of the territories to Jordan. What the king wanted was Israeli withdrawal from the Jordan Valley, which he could use as a bargaining chip at the 1974 Rabat meeting of Arab heads of state.

Jordan did not fare well at the summit, where the right to represent the Palestinians was taken. But in frank discussions with Rabin in November 1975, Hussein said, "I am committed to relations with Israel, regardless of the decisions at Rabat."

Indeed, Hussein continued talking to Rabin, who was accompanied by Allon and Shimon Peres, and the talks began with discussion about

regional developments and their meetings with world leaders. Then they moved on to practical issues; these could be anything from complaints that the booters on Israeli Navy vessels were keeping the king awake in his Akaba palace, to mayoral elections in Judea and Samaria, from minor border corrections in the Arava to problems involved in keeping the border peaceful.

The atmosphere at the talks was calm, without tension or raised voices, and their mutual respect extended beyond their meetings. In July 1976, Hussein sent Rabin congratulations on the success of the Entebbe operation.

In March 1977, two months before he resigned as prime minister, Rabin asked the king if he would accept an Israeli-made Galil rifle as a personal present. The king replied, "I will be delighted," and Rabin presented him with an olive-wood box containing a Galil rifle bearing a gold plaque which read, "To His Majesty, King Hussein. In friendship from Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel."

They were out of touch for nine years, until March 1986, when Rabin, as defense minister in the national unity government, met the king in Paris. It was a month after Hussein announced that he was shelving the year-old diplomatic coordination agreement he had signed with the PLO.

Rabin raised the need to curb PLO terrorism and oppose the organization's leaders, who were using Jordan as a base to plan operations against Israel. Rabin also agreed to Hussein's request that Israel strengthen economic and official links between the Palestinians in the West Bank and Amman. A few months later, he said in a TV inter-

view: "Israel's policy is to strengthen Jordan's position in Judea and Samaria."

In July 1986, before the interview, Rabin and then-prime minister Shimon Peres met with the king and Jordanian premier Zaid Rifai to discuss Jordan's five-year plan for the economic development of the West Bank. Jordan sought Israeli assistance in raising \$1.5 billion to implement the plan, but, in spite of Israel's support, the US Congress allocated only \$18 million as its annual contribution to the five-year plan.

ONLY WHEN Rabin returned to the Prime Minister's Office in 1992 did he renew his frequent contacts with the king. Rabin read every communique from Amman and found out that his predecessor, Yitzhak Shamir, had received a written message from Hussein containing a warm farewell to the retiring prime minister. In his message, Hussein praised Shamir for the "mutual trust and candor prevailing between them, which saved the two neighboring countries from an outbreak of violence" during the Gulf war.

Rabin decided to strike while the iron was hot, and instructed the delegation conducting talks with the Palestinian-Jordanian delegation in Washington to agree on a negotiating agenda. To spur the Jordanians, Rabin ordered a generous, unilateral gesture: supplying water to Jordan, which was experiencing a water shortage, beyond the agreed allowance.

The agenda stated, for the first time, that the objective of negotiations was a peace treaty; the issues of Jerusalem and the refugees were not mentioned. The agenda (Continued on Page 8)

ISRAEL JOURNAL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

Editor-in-Chief Moshe Prywes and the Editorial Board congratulate

Prof. SHMUEL PENCHAS, Director-General HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION

on his appointment as member of The Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, Washington D.C.

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JERUSALEM: PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Monday, October 21, 1996

Conference Hall, Economics Building, Bar-Ilan University

3:45 p.m. Session One

Greetings: Yehuda Friedlander, Rector, Bar-Ilan University
Thomas O. Hecht, Founder & Chairman of the BESA International Advisory Board
Brian Morris, Past-President, B'nai Brith Canada

Chairs: Stuart A. Cohen, BESA
Joel Cuperfain, Institute for International Affairs, Ontario

Yehoshua Schwartz, Bar-Ilan University: *The Strategic Defense of Ancient Jerusalem*
Hanan Eshel, Bar-Ilan University:
The Jerusalem Syndrome in Ancient Times: The Dead Sea Sect & Jerusalem
Tova Cohen, Bar-Ilan University:
Jerusalem in Hebrew Literature: From a Celestial Concept to a Terrestrial Entity

5:30 p.m. Session Two

Chairs: Shmuel Sandler, BESA
Max Glicksman, Co-Chair, B'nai Brith Foundation

Barry Rabin, BESA: *Arab Views on the Status of Jerusalem*
Shlomo Slonim, Hebrew University: *U.S. Policy on Jerusalem*
Gerald M. Steinberg, BESA: *Israeli Positions on Jerusalem*

7:00 p.m. Session Three

Chairs: Efraim Inbar, BESA
Frank Dimaant, Executive Vice-President, B'nai Brith Canada
Dore Gold, Director of Foreign Policy to the Prime Minister: *The Future of Jerusalem*

The event is co-sponsored by the Institute for International Affairs of B'nai-Brith, Canada

Taxing times at the Treasury

The fiasco of the Brodet Report has highlighted the tenuous and hostile relationship between the Treasury, the Bank of Israel and the PM's Office, David Harris reports

WHEN David Brodet closes his front door on this week, and puts his feet up in front of the television, somewhere in the back of his mind one question will surely be nagging him: "What do I have to do in order to achieve anything of real economic substance?"

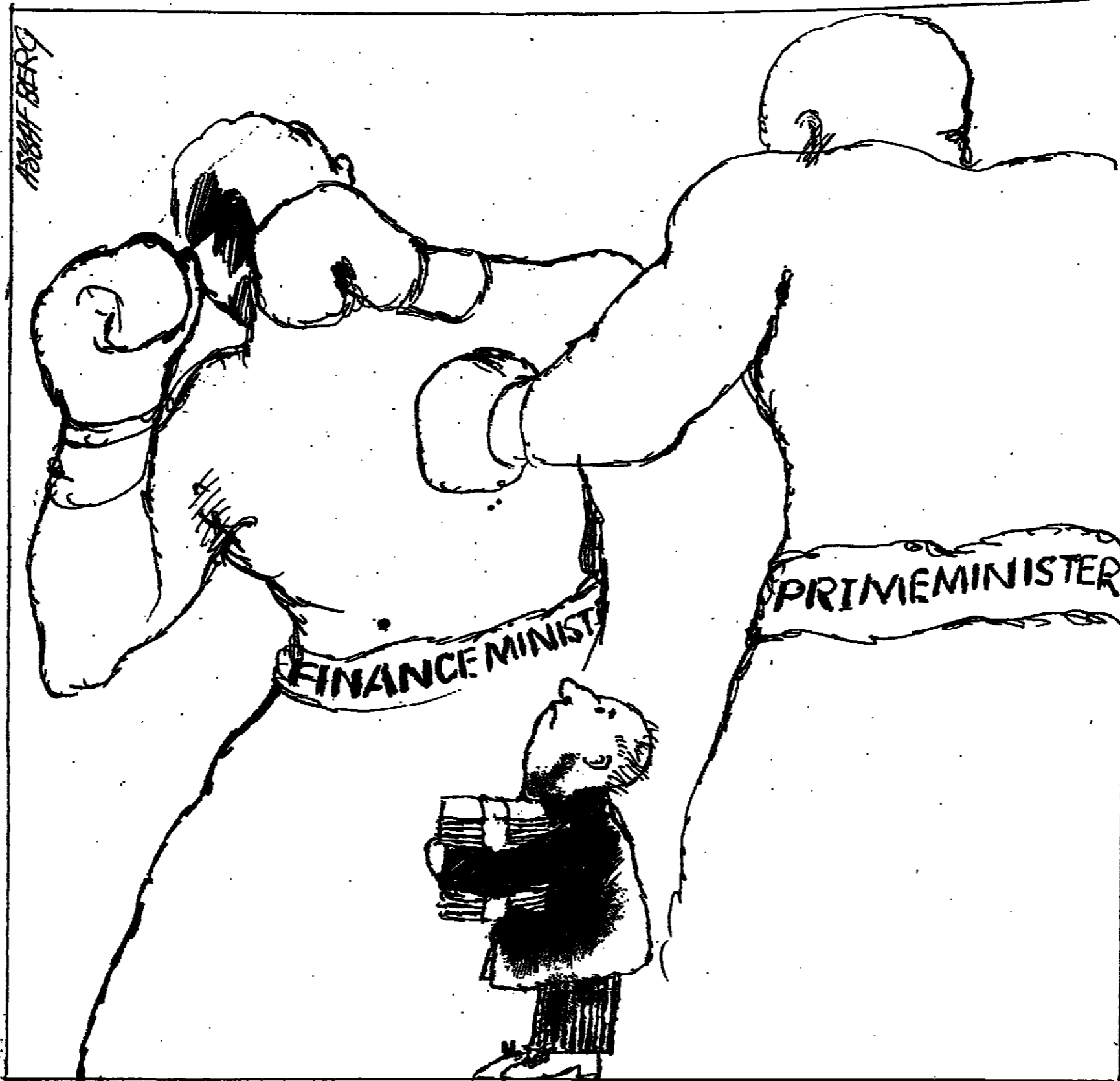
Three weeks ago, Treasury Director-General Brodet held two press conferences publicizing the recommendations of the committee he headed which proposed reforms to Israel's ailing capital markets.

The bottom line of the report was the need to encourage long-term investment. Brodet worked together with a collection of Israel's leading experts on the economy - including professors Amir Barnea and Yitzhak Swari, central bank monetary division head David Klein, and supervisor of capital markets Doron Shorer, on a proposal to encourage people to close their short- and mid-term savings accounts and to look towards 10-year-plus investments in the capital markets.

So far, this proposal has not only failed to be accepted by the cabinet, but has led to increased tension in the relationship between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Finance Minister Dan Meridor. The proposal has left people uncertain as to who is actually running the economy, it has shown up Netanyahu's indecisive streak, brought a call for a no-confidence vote in the government, given the impression that Prime Minister's Office director-general Avigdor Lieberman is even more of a bruiser than people thought, and left large question marks over the futures of Meridor and even Brodet himself.

Sunday's extensive meetings between the cabinet, the Bank of Israel and members of the committee ended with widespread agreement about most of the proposed measures, but taxing interest on short- and mid-term savings was the stumbling block. "The discussions were highly professional and to the point," declared Industry and Trade Minister Natan Sharansky.

Finance Ministry sources said that by Sunday evening, Meridor, who fully backs the entire report, had a majority of ministers on his side, at which point Netanyahu called a halt to the debate and took Meridor aside for a private chat. After some two-and-a-half hours, the two returned and Netanyahu announced a new proposal: to accept the non-savings sec-



tions of the report, but to establish a new three-person panel to come up with alternatives to taxing shorter-term savings. The meeting then continued through the early hours of Monday morning.

On the surface, this was a clever move by Netanyahu: a compromise which won the day. "It was a fair effort by the prime minister to reach a consensus," said Immigration and Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein, who three days before the vote said he fully endorsed the entire report.

"What I find frustrating is that the reason the report was ditched was irrelevant," Professor Barnea told reporters. "It was ditched due to some psychological theory, that I have been unable to comprehend, regarding the possible effect of the taxation on the general public, and power struggles within the government, which I also do not understand."

Netanyahu now faces an anxious two-week wait, to discover if the new team - of Brodet, Netanyahu's economic expert

Moshe Leon and a representative of the Bank of Israel, who in all probability will be second-in-command Dr. David Klein - will come up with a suitable alternative, or if Brodet's original proposals will be put forward yet again, in what could be a last attempt for both him and Meridor to save face.

SO WHY IS Netanyahu so insistent on amending the recommendations? Unlike many of his predecessors,

Netanyahu places a great deal of emphasis on getting the economy right. Indeed, he has taken control of several economic roles previously in the hands of the Treasury, including the whole area of privatization and the Government Companies Authority. At one point Netanyahu even requested the budgetary functions of the Finance Ministry be transferred to his own office.

During his election campaign and countless times since, the prime minister

has insisted there will be no taxation, or in the worst-case scenario, only low taxation. In the opinion of the public, who have flocked to the shorter-term investment options, Netanyahu would be committing a grave error in going back on his word. It is suggested that during Sunday night's debate, Netanyahu's aides, particularly Lieberman, reminded him of his "read my lips [there will be no taxation]" comment made during the fourth annual gathering of Israel's economic experts at Caesarea in the summer.

As for the rivalry between Netanyahu and Meridor, one of the party's "princes," this is just the latest in a series of flash-points between them. When Netanyahu was assembling his cabinet, Meridor was not the first choice for finance minister; Bank of Israel governor Jacob Frenkel was.

Frenkel at first backed Netanyahu's view on the taxation issue, briefly commenting that he was "very happy" with the outcome of the cabinet vote. But in a flip-flop Wednesday, Frenkel said he supports the original report, though with a couple of changes.

The word in the corridors of power over Meridor's future is mixed. Senior sources at the Finance Ministry say he has absolutely no intention of resigning, while others say he is reconsidering his political future.

If the latter is the case, could it really be that the failure to approve the Brodet recommendations is a sufficient factor to warrant resignation, or is this latest saga merely the straw that will break Meridor's back?

"Meridor shouldn't be concerned about last night's decision to postpone taxation on short-term savings," wrote Zvi Lavi in *Globes* on Monday. "He should, however, be concerned about his weak public image taking shape in the mass media. If it weren't for this image, it is doubtful if there even would have been a clash at last night's cabinet session."

It does seem unlikely that Meridor would quit over this single issue; after all, his predecessor Avraham Shohat did not step down after his abortive attempt to tax investments on the stock exchange.

Meanwhile, it has now become clear that Brodet's lifetime career as a civil servant will end early next year, if not sooner. Meridor, it transpired on Tuesday, has asked Mifal Hapayis managing director and life-long Likudnik Shmuel Staviv to take the reins at the Treasury. It is unclear whether this is a case of man-overboard as a result of the report fiasco, or whether Brodet had given notice, or was asked to leave before the issue of the report came into the limelight.

However, despite this latest career move, Brodet must now decide whether he wants to depart with a whimper or a bang. He may decide to step down gracefully after the passing of the 1997 budget, or alternatively, depending on the reception to the new panel's recommendations, he may opt for resignation over a matter of principle.

In either case, the whole "Brodet affair" has shown that the relationship between the Treasury, central bank and Prime Minister's Office, and more importantly, between Meridor, Frenkel and Netanyahu, is fragile and even hostile. This can only be to the detriment of Israel's already burdened economy.

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(Continued from Page 7) sparked a wave of protest in the Arab world, and Hussein retreated. At the same time, in January 1993, the government announced to the Knesset: "We are moving toward peace with Jordan."

The movement was not as fast as expected, so only after the Declaration of Principles between Israel and the PLO was signed did Jerusalem and Amman agree on the talks' agenda, in October. Following his meeting with Rabin, Hussein announced, "The Hashemite dynasty cannot under any circumstances forgo its status in the holy places in Jerusalem."

But there was a hitch. Peres, while visiting the king's palace in November, expressed reservations

concerning Jordan's demand for preferential treatment in the holy places, out of concern for the reaction by the DOP signatories. Rabin did not panic. After hearing of Hussein's dissatisfaction, he sent Ephraim Halevi, long the secret conduit for contacts with the Jordanian monarch, to Amman. (Halevi, now ambassador to the European Union, was sent this week to try patching up ties between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Hussein.)

That month, the king announced in Cairo that his government had decided to negotiate with Israel and that "Jordan will not shirk its religious and historic responsibility for the sites sacred to Islam in Jerusalem, without any intention of

FRIENDSHIP

[imposing] Jordanian sovereignty over the city."

The formula was adopted by Rabin. That allowed Israeli and Jordanian officers to agree in London on a secret air route for treaty negotiators shuttling between Amman and Tel Aviv.

IT APPEARED that all the threads had been sewn up, and on April 13, Hussein handed Halevi a message for Rabin saying he intended to sign a public declaration of principles at the White House. But before the envoy could deliver the message, there was a terror attack at Hadera's bus station. The trail led to Hamas,

commanded from Jordan.

Rabin and Peres held an urgent press conference in which they publicly warned if Hussein did not act against Hamas, Israel would. The next day a communiqué was received from Jordan asking whether Halevi had passed along the king's message. Once Halevi had passed on the information about progress in the negotiations, criticism of Jordan was lowered and the way was paved for the final meeting between Rabin and Hussein in London on May 28, 1994.

"In that conversation in London, I realized that the negotiations were on the fast lane to peace," Rabin said in an interview later. The prime minister had good reason for this assumption: he unequivocally undertook to grant the Hashemites

preferred status in the holy places in Jerusalem, recognizing their historic role. This promise satisfied Hussein's ambition to rescue some of the great legacy that he inherited from his grandfather Abdullah.

After that obstacle had been removed, on May 28, the chemistry between the Rabin and the king brought them together seven more times that year.

That doesn't mean there weren't disagreements, but the friendship between the two leaders was the main force in resolving them.

The material in this article is based on the author's book, Hussein the Peacemaker published this week by the BESA (Begin-Sadat) Center for Strategic Studies and Bar-Ilan University.

The Jerusalem supplement appearing with the Friday edition of The Jerusalem Post

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הלכה מן האל

Children on strike shake up the system

Strikes were used three times this week by parents unhappy with their children's schooling.

Is this a new national phenomenon?

Judith Sudilovsky reports

PARENTS are mad as hell and they aren't going to take it anymore. In Herzliya, parents kept their children home from school for eight days. In Petah Tikva they did the same for one week, and in Pardes Hanna, the kids stayed home for one day. For a while it looked as if a wave of parent-initiated strikes against schools was going to hit the country.

In the cases of Herzliya and Pardes Hanna, the issues were the varying conditions of the schools which had been a point of contention in the school systems for almost a year or more. In Petah Tikva parents were protesting the merger of five third-grade classes at Kaf Elementary School, to four classes.

At the end of each strike, the parents felt victorious - although they didn't always get exactly what they wanted. People took notice of them and reacted, whereas writing letters and meeting with officials had gotten them nowhere previously, they said.

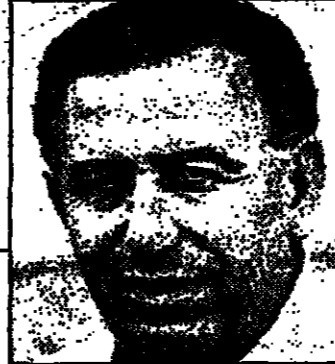
"The strike helped move things along," said Pardes Hanna Parents' Association head Yoav Katabi. The school district had promised to make basic improvements in the schools with money provided by the Ministry of Education, but had been dragging their feet when parents feared the allocated money would be withdrawn. So they held a strike on Sunday and by Sunday night they had a signed agreement to begin the renovations. "I'm not saying they wouldn't have started working without the strike, but it helped move them. Unfortunately in our country the only way to get things moving is by striking."

Parents striking is not a new phenomenon. Parents from Herzliya and Pardes Hanna also held strikes last year over the same issues, and parents in Beersheba have held several strikes over the years.

"Parents have always used strikes but I think it is a mistake. It doesn't get you anywhere," said Education Ministry spokesman Benny Shoukron. "There won't be a wave of strikes now. We call on parents and anyone with a problem to come and solve their differences through negotiations and discussions, and not by wars."



Childless schoolroom in Herzliya, where the head of the parents association, Yossi Kalati (inset), complains that Mayor Eli Landau has not provided promised funds to bring classes up to par with neighboring communities. Mayor Eli Landau says the parents are 'spoiled.'



(Also See Israel Sun)

But Herzliya Mayor Eli Landau, who has been in a bitter struggle with the parents of his town for the past week, says he sees the strikes as setting a dangerous precedent not only for the education sector but for other areas of society as well. At one point, he said, it became a matter of principle not to bend to the parents' demands so they would see that they would gain nothing by force.

"It is a terrible thing. They are breaking the law and doing it at

their children's expense," he said. "It is legitimate in a democratic society to strike but it is not legitimate for parents to keep their children from an education. I am sure that if in Herzliya they get what they want with the strike, then everybody will want [to strike to get things]. Look at Pardes Hanna and Petah Tikva, then it will spread to Ramat Gan and Hod Hasharon. Why not strike?"

Parents, however, say that striking is not so easy and not something they take lightly. They see it as a weapon of last resort.

"These are issues which have been brewing for several years," said Petah Tikva Parents Association head Ezra Meged, who has three children in Petah Tikva schools. In fact, he said, perhaps if Petah Tikva parents had looked at Herzliya's dragged-out strike as an example, they would have never embarked on their own strike. "In Herzliya it just exploded, it wasn't an issue of a strike being fashionable. Striking is not something parents want to do. They are very responsible. They don't want to keep their children from school. It is like shooting ourselves in the foot."

After the Petah Tikva strike, the classes were still divided into four instead of five but parents were promised the classes would remain the same size and not be merged again through the end of elementary school.

"It was very difficult for me personally. I had to arrange for a babysitter to come early and sometimes my children went to friends, but I thought we were so in the right in our struggle that it gave me strength," said Herzliya mother Rachel Orad, a psychologist who has two children in elementary school. "I don't think striking is a means to get things through strength, but if you try to do things quietly nothing happens. This strike is proof. Until this strike nobody paid attention to us. We wrote letters and nobody looked at us."

She said she was willing to go through the difficulties now in order for her children to get a good education.

Herzliya parents charged that Landau withheld promised funds to bring their schools up to par with those in neighboring communities such as Ra'anana and Ramat Gan. Landau said those funds were nonexistent and the parents were "spoiled." They are an affluent community with one of the highest property taxes, countered the parents, and they want the funds used for the education of their children, not to build sport facilities. In the end, an agreement was reached which requires that recommendations of an earlier report be followed and the school facilities be brought to level with the surrounding school systems over the next few years.

"It's about time we made ourselves heard," said Tova Rafael, an activist in the Herzliya Parents Association and mother of three. "It's about time we had a say where our money goes to."

For Yossi Kalati, head of the Herzliya Parents Association, the strike proved that when parents are convinced of their position and united in their struggle, they can achieve their aims.

Though they may have been at opposite sides of the strike, in the end both he and Landau said what should be learned from this example is that the strike could have been avoided. Kalati said he hoped there would not be any more need to strike and that they had learned a new lesson. What must be learned from this strike, said Landau, is that the only losers were the children.

"The strike weapon needs to be the last resort," said Meged of Petah Tikva. "You have to do everything else possible before striking, but in the end what else is left for parents to do?"

Hartman's center for tolerance finds new Jerusalem home

HAIM SHAPIRO

If Jerusalem is the spiritual center of the Jewish world, David Hartman hopes to be at the center of the center.

Hartman, a rabbi and philosopher, is head of the Shalom Hartman Institute, a many-faceted Jerusalem institution which this week is to dedicate its new campus. It is no accident, he says, that the new, four-building complex is located within what is becoming the capital's "cultural mile," just down the street from the Jerusalem Theater.

The new campus of the institute is to be dedicated this week in a series of ceremonies, lectures, and symposia. Among those scheduled to take part are Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert, as well as their predecessors, MK Shimon Peres and Teddy Kollek. Also taking part will be non-religious educators and Christian and Moslem scholars.

Openness to world culture is an integral part of Hartman's personal philosophy and that of the institute. "We are trying to create a community of committed scholars and teachers who believe that Jerusalem should be the spiritual center of the Jewish people, and it can only be so if we respect the views of others."

When he speaks of others, Hartman, an Orthodox rabbi and graduate of Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elhanan Theological Seminary, Hartman is referring to non-Orthodox religious streams in Judaism, secular Israelis, and those of other religions. One doesn't have to agree with them, he says, but one has to respect that which is positive in their outlook.

Hartman was being interviewed at the institute's temporary quarters, a large building near the new site. Just outside his office was a group of teachers of Jewish subjects in secular high schools, who were participating in a seminar on how to present these subjects.

Taking part were women teachers with hats and men with kippot, identification signs of the Orthodox community, alongside bareheaded men and women wearing pants. The state of Jewish subjects in the



Rabbi David Hartman at the new campus of the Shalom Hartman Institute. (Brian Heider)

secular schools is acknowledged to be very low and the institute is seeing what it can do to ameliorate the situation.

However, for Hartman, as important as the seminar for teachers may be, the problem is more far-reaching. For him, the establishment of the State of Israel is a symbol that the Jewish people has emerged from the ghetto, and that Jews must take their place among the nations of the world.

"The Jewish people has gone public," he says in a typical all-encompassing utterance as he leans back behind his desk, his unkempt gray hair erupting from around his knitted kippa.

HARTMAN, 65, was born in Brooklyn. Among his spiritual mentors was Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveichik, a philosopher whose influence extended far beyond the Jewish Orthodox world. Hartman continued to study with Soloveichik after he received his

rabbinical ordination, while studying at New York's Fordham University.

From Soloveichik, he says, he learned that halachic Judaism could be integrated with a deep respect for knowledge, regardless of its source.

At Fordham, Hartman studied with Robert C. Pollack. It was from him, Hartman says, that he learned to joyfully celebrate the variety of spiritual rhythms present in the American experience.

From New York, Hartman went to Montreal, where he continued to serve as a congregational rabbi, while at the same time studying and then teaching at McGill University. It was there that he received his Ph.D. in philosophy and became an associate professor.

In 1971, Hartman came to Israel where he began teaching at the Hebrew University, reaching the rank of full professor in 1989. In

1976, he founded the institute, named for his father, who had been born in Jerusalem's Old City. The institute was to move over the years to a varied series of rented quarters. The present, \$10 million campus, built on land provided by the Jerusalem Foundation, is apparently to be its final home.

Last week, the only one of the buildings already in use was that of the high school, with some 300 boys. According to Hartman, the high school is evidence of the fact that while the institute may be estranged from the religious establishment of Jerusalem, it is very much a part of the religious community, who vie to send their children to the school. "The religious establishment has been co-opted by the haredi community," Hartman says.

Dr. Eugene Korn, director for leadership education and development at the institute, points out that the high school has a large playing field which is to be shared with the Beit Hamich High School, a secular school which is the institute's next-door neighbor. The cooperation of the youngsters on the playing field is to be symbolic of the bridge which the Institute is trying to create between Israel's secular and religious populations.

The remainder of the building is to be the home for a large number of varied programs. There is the Institute for Advanced Judaic Studies in which leading thinkers and scholars work and create. This institute also encompasses a Center for Religious Pluralism, a Center for Jewish Political Thought, a Center for Jewish Ethics and Public Policy, and a Center for Contemporary Halacha.

There is also the Institute for Diaspora Education which has within its scope a Rabbinic Torah Study Center, a Center for Leadership Enrichment, and a Resource Center for Jewish Continuity. Finally, there is the Institute for Judaic Educational Leadership, which in turn encompasses the high school, as well as a Center for Jewish Education in the public high-school system, a Fellowship for Future Scholars program, the high school, and perhaps most significantly, the

Beit Midrash.

It is the Beit Midrash which is the focus of attention of anyone entering the campus and, architecturally, it is the center of the new institute. Korn says that when it is furnished, it will have the traditional tables, chairs and learning desks which one sees in any yeshiva. The difference,

he says, will be in the students, who are to represent a cross-section of Israeli society. One will see observant Jews in kippot, as well as secular Jews without them. There will be women as well as men and while some of the women may arrive in long-sleeved dresses, others may be coming in jeans, carrying motor-

cycle helmets.

The students of the Beit Midrash are to provide a living example of the aims of the institute, to reach out to all Jews, to accept all that is creative in Jewish culture.

"We want to provide a legacy of tolerance to the Jewish world," Hartman says.

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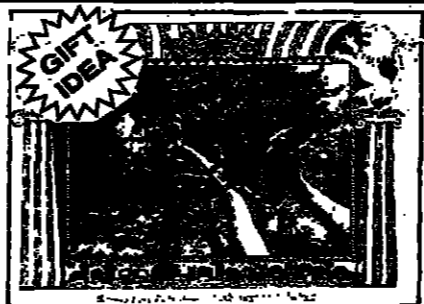
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Security for the PM at a premium

PRIME MINISTER Binyamin Netanyahu, in contrast to his usual custom, was not holding hands with his wife Sara at the state ceremony to launch the Year of Zionism...

General Security Services personnel have become so paranoid about his safety that invitees have to come more than an hour ahead of time...

NO SUBJECT is free of politics

these days, Rabbi Joseph Green, delivering the Friday night sermon at Jerusalem's Ramban synagogue, was heckled by a congregant who told him that the synagogue was not a place in which to preach politics...

THE SAME verse is worn on the T-shirts of members of Netivot Shalom and Oz Shalom, the religious Zionist peace activists who congregated near the prime minister's official residence on Fridays to hold a public mincha service...

Some of the Women in Black who walked past the religious peacekeepers allowed themselves a word or two of encouragement, but didn't stay to join in the prayers or to listen to the Bible lesson...

IF PEACE is a political word, so apparently is tolerance. Yeshiva University President Dr. Norman Lamm, speaking the following evening at the Renaissance Hotel in Jerusalem, told the huge audience which crowded into one of the ballrooms that his lecture on tolerance would be "totally non-political."

GRAPEVINE GREER FAY CASHMAN



James Joyce enthusiasts got to hear 'Ulysses' in Hebrew, read by Zvi Gabay in Dublin.

felt, he added, that he was coming into hostile territory with attackers on both sides of the fence. Denouncing mutual demonization, Lamm called for YU alumni to help to bring about "a treaty of tolerance" between religious and irreligious and right and left...

SEVERAL WOMEN in Israel, Australia and the US have reluctantly crossed lawyer-turned-entrepreneur Gary Leibler off their lists of eligible bachelors. The handsome, personable son of World Jewish Congress vice-president Isi Leibler and his wife Naomi, Gary Leibler this month announced his engagement to Rosie Landau...

ambassador-designate Jorge Alberto Lozoya, without having yet presented his credentials, attended the opening of the Mexican Fiesta at the Hyatt Regency, Jerusalem, within the framework of Jerusalem 3000. Moshe Melamed, Israel's ambassador to Mexico, recalled that when he first arrived in Mexico, he attended a similar function before presenting his credentials...

WHAT DO Foreign Ministry wives and mothers talk about when they get together? The same as other mothers - their children, but with a slightly different twist. At a farewell luncheon hosted by Sarah Meron for Michelle Mazel, whose husband Zvi is ambassador-designate to Belgium, Naomi Manor recalled that when she was in Thailand, her youngest son, after learning of the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in Buenos Aires, barricaded himself in his room against a possible terrorist attack.

Ruth Bavli's contribution was more humorous. Her maid in Paris had repudiated about collecting the Bavli offspring from school. Why? Because there were so many security guards around to protect them and the other Israeli children, that the maid, unaware of the true reason for their presence, thought that the Bavli youngsters were enrolled in a facility for juvenile delinquents.

RECIPROcity WAS the name of the game this week when Mexico's

SWISS parliamentarians Walter Straumann, Josef Lotcher and Ruth Gonseth Egenter visited the Knesset soon after the resignation of former justice minister and Labor MK David Liba'i, who left the legislature because he was unable to practice law or pursue his academic career while on a Knesset salary...

WHEN politicians meet the press, it's usually because they want to be reported. But when the Konrad Adenauer Foundation arranged a meeting with Israeli media for Dr. Berndt Seite, prime minister of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, the shoe was on the other foot...

JAMES JOYCE enthusiasts in Dublin this week heard a Hebrew reading of Ulysses by Israeli ambassador Zvi Gabay following his presentation of the first Hebrew translation of the book and translations of A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man and Dubliners to the James Joyce Society...



Dan Meridor had the privilege of joining Netanyahu and Peres (shown above) on 'The Hartzufim.'

Dan Meridor: A 'Hartzufim' and a gentleman

THE WEEK THAT WAS MICHAL YUDELMAN

THE Hartzufim waddled into the debut of their new season last Friday with a new member aboard - the spitting image of Finance Minister Dan Meridor. The new star almost stole the show with a brilliantly anemic performance, in which he gradually evaporated in the midst of a television interview...

ital markets," was all that Meridor, still a prince and a gentleman, would say. He would not say if he would remain in office if the Brodet recommendations are ultimately rejected by the cabinet.



Avigdor Leiberman helped Meridor play out his real-life drama with the Brodet report.

insisted on standing his ground and refusing to compromise.

NOT TONIGHT, YASSER

An agreement between Israel and the Palestinians was very close, announced government spokesmen backed by American sources early this week. An agreement will be reached this week, perhaps even tonight, media headlines trumpeted the next day...

During King Hussein's historic visit to Jericho after he personally piloted in Arafat, the Palestinian leader suggested that American soldiers should be deployed in Hebron since Israel "kept going on about security" and "trusted neither our soldiers nor theirs."

RACE TRACK

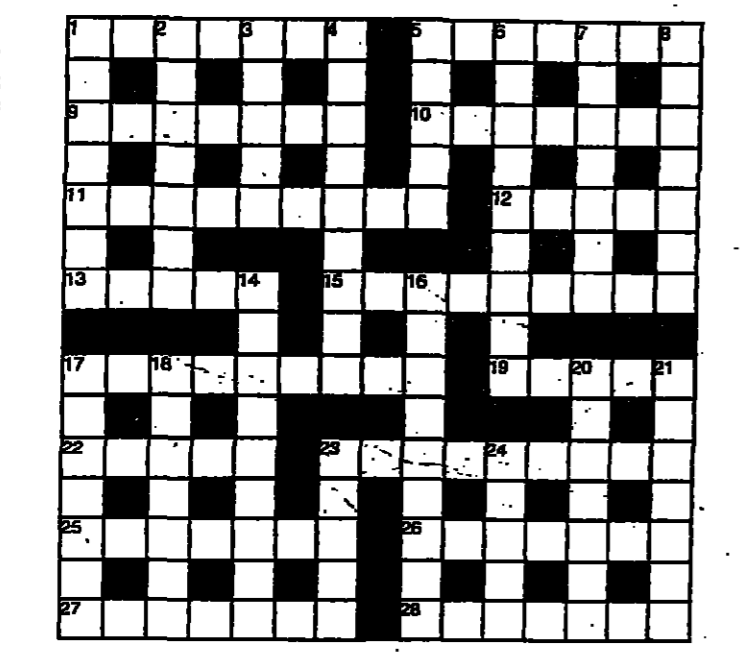
The tiresome Middle East was far from Americans' minds as they waited impatiently for the second and final-round television clash between President Clinton and Senator Bob Dole this week with Dole hitting the home run more aggressively after "personality issues" everyone was expecting a damn good show...

BRULIK

Cartoon strip by DOSH with four panels. Panel 1: 'SPEAKING OF KASPAROV, HOW ABOUT THE BRODET GAMBIT?' Panel 2: 'TO ACCEPT IT - IS A BLUNDER!' Panel 3: 'TO REJECT IT - IS A MISTAKE!' Panel 4: 'IT SOUNDS FAMILIAR THIS TIME IT'S ONLY ECONOMICS...'

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS 1 Curve of road around lake is an awkward climb (7) 5 Cheese, English, divine taken in daily (7) 9 Bill's elf-tale recollector? (7) 10 Cleopatra, female? No, quite the opposite meaning! (7) 11 Travel unaccompanied from Ealing? Too difficult! (2,2,5) 12 Imperial remover? (5) 13 A bit of a rotten nuisance (5) 15 Suddenly giving Lancelot a shake-up (3,2,4) 17 Henry Morgan, for example, in exciting race around NE Cuba (9) 19 Unyielding second row (5) 22 Suggest, straightforwardly, leader should go (5) 23 Cockney's abrasive shore-bird (9) 25 A 2 thief who decided to 11 (3,4) 26 One travelling to ancient city, it's arranged (7) 27 I is one, so is U (7) 28 Map they unfold, feeling for others (7) DOWN 1 City once ordered to keep record book (7) 2 Drunk in a bar, a member of 25's band (7) 3 Wood taken from the Gurbals area (5) 4 Motivation to share drink? (9) 5 Cold comfort is to end (5) 6 What troubles people in the Canal Zone, say? (9) 7 Inhabitant of New Zealand, I need to be re-settled (7) 8 Pity about the signalling system! (7) 14 Where customs officers may look, no matter what (2,3,4) 16 Operatic spectacle set by Handel, we hear (9) 17 Military formation ordered to carry equipment (7) 18 Tip given to hatter? (7)* 20 Stamp, one covering pair in perfect condition (7) 21 Conifers on square extremely lovely-coming before all others (7) 23 Clever, to bring back old passenger-vehicles (5) 24 Come down for stout (5)



SOLUTIONS HISTORY: A T O S P... G U I D E A I D... S E T T I N G... M A N O F... W I N D... S W A M P... T O P I C... J U N C T I O N... O S A T A K E... I... M E A N I N G... N O N... A C C O... E... M... T... A... U... G... S... H... I... P... E... N... D... I... A... R... I... E... S... DOWN: 1 H o m e l y, 2 N e p t u n e, 3 U n s e e m i n g, 4 C o n t, 5 U n i o n, 6 T w e n t y, 7 W h i r l, 8 G a n g w a y, 16 C o t t a g e, 17 B e t t e r, 19 T r i l l, 20 T y r a n t, 23 S w i n g, 24 B I L L.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS 5 Criminal (5) 8 Monk in silent order (8) 9 Propeller (5) 10 Huge (8) 11 Old weapon (5) 14 Member (3) 16 N Italian city (6) 17 Conifer holy orders (6) 18 Help (3) 20 Stringed instrument (5) 24 Slaughterhouse (8) 25 Make amends (5) 26 State of being forgotten (8) 27 Heartless (5) DOWN 1 Theatre platform (5) 2 Canal-boat (5) 3 Exhausted (5) 4 Be ambitious (5) 6 Adventure (8) 7 Exaggerated, histriionist (8) 12 Deceiver (8) 13 Physical force (8) 14 Meadow (3) 15 Deity (3) 18 Drink (6) 21 Unclothe (5) 22 Firm, rebell (5) 23 Wading bird (5)

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הלל מן אלאל

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Friday, October 18, 1996

13

Panel: State banks' sale must begin now

EVELYN GORDON

THE government should immediately begin to sell some of the arrangement bank shares on the stock exchange, since it could be years before it succeeds in selling a controlling interest in the major banks, the Knesset Finance Committee agreed yesterday.

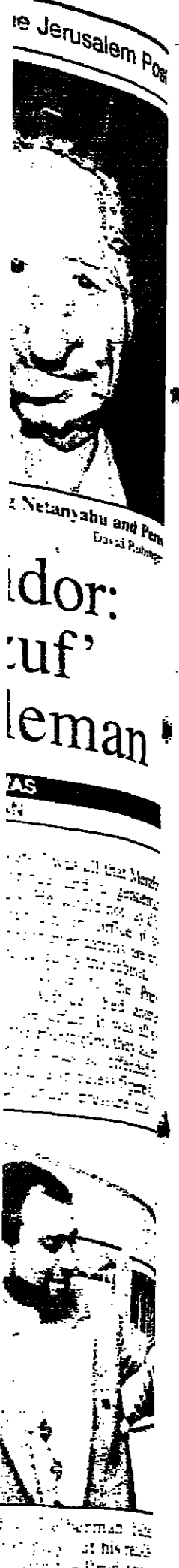
Frenkel changes opinion on Brodet report

DAVID HARRIS

BANK of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel has reversed his opinion on the Brodet Committee recommendations, saying on Wednesday night that he now favors taxing interest on savings.

Avraham Shohat (Labor) yesterday accused Frenkel of changing his mind for purely political reasons.

BITS & BYTES
JENNIFER FRIEDLIN
Edisoft to provide multimedia system to Russian Labor Ministry: Edisoft, a subsidiary of Degem Systems, has been chosen to provide Russia's Labor Ministry with its multimedia, English tutorial system.



A Parisian walks past demonstrators staging a one-day strike yesterday that grounded most airline flights. The banner reads 'Salaries - employment - public sector, state workers fighting.' (AP)

G.O. Interactive raises \$19m. in London

JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

G.O. Interactive Media of Givatayim raised \$19 million in its initial public offering on London's Alternative Investment Market (AIM) Exchange.

IEC awards first private generation contracts

ISRAEL Electric Corporation yesterday announced the names of the first four private, domestic companies which will generate electricity here.

Rail fares to increase by 15% from Sunday

Jerusalem Post Staff

RAIL fares will rise by some 15 percent from Sunday, the Ports and Railways Authority confirmed yesterday.

Trade deficit up 10%

DAVID HARRIS

THE trade deficit, excluding diamonds, totalled \$8.4 billion in the first nine months of the year, up some \$800 million, or 10 percent, on the January to September figure in 1995.

Two foreign firms to expand interests here

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TWO international companies are planning to bring 75 to 100 families from the US to Israel by the end of the calendar year as part of the companies' plans to expand their operations here, according to Apen Sabbag, president of Meredit Corp.'s Real Estate Corp., who is visiting the country.

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ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS. Table with columns for Currency (U.S. dollar, German mark, etc.), Period (3 MONTHS, 6 MONTHS, 12 MONTHS), and Rate.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Market up third straight day

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



STOCKS rose for the third day, on optimism that the government will agree to redeploy troops out of Hebron and that the central bank will reduce interest rates.

"Most of it is hope for a deal" with the Palestinians over Hebron and redeployment of Israeli troops," said Yuval Ravid, an analyst at the Israeli desk of Societe Generale Strauss Turbul in London.

In addition, "the dollar was very strong today," pushing the shekel as low as 3.23, from 3.203 yesterday, he said. That's "driven by expectation of a rate cut after the low" consumer price index for September.

Lebed sacking boosts dollar

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Russian President Boris Yeltsin's firing of security chief Alexander Lebed joined the dollar higher yesterday and briefly sent European stock markets into retreat.

The dollar leaped half a penny as concerns about political instability in Moscow pressured the market, but the reaction was relatively measured as markets pondered what might happen next.

Share markets in Germany and France also reacted by paring gains after the news from Moscow but later recovered.

Following an increasingly rancorous struggle in the Kremlin between Interior Minister Anatoly Kutikov and Lebed, an ailing Yeltsin appeared on television to say he had sacked his security chief who had been accused of plotting to seize power.

"This is disturbing news for European assets given the potential for increased political instability in Russia," said Keith Edmonds, chief analyst at IBI International in London.

But analysts said much might depend on what Lebed did next. "It all depends now on whether he will sit back or fight back," said Jeremy Stretch, currency strategist at Nat West Markets in London.

Given his personality one wouldn't expect Lebed to retire and do nothing. So it's likely the concerted power struggle will intensify.

Russian financial markets had already spent a jumpy day before the sacking, with shares and bonds falling sharply.

"There was panic in the morning," said a trader at the Troika Dialog bank in Moscow. "The market is very sensitive to political news and it causes panicky movements from both brokers and investors."

Most leading Russian stocks

Dow stays on record run

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - Blue-chip stocks pushed further into record territory yesterday as interest rates fell in the bond market amid new signs of a moderating economy that might keep inflation under control.

Technology-dominated sectors tumbled lower, pressured by some profit-taking in computer-industry names whose shares had rallied in advance of this week's strong earnings reports.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average rose 38.39 points to close at 6,059.20, padding Wednesday's record close and moving within 50 points of 6,100 just three days after its first close above 6,000.

Broad-market measures were mostly positive, with the Standard and Poor's 500-list and the New York Stock Exchange composite index closing at record highs.

The markets rallied back to record levels in less than three months after July's steep selloff, bolstered by a stream of economic data that has helped the Fed delay any inflation-fighting increase in its key interest rates.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by nearly a 3-to-2 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,425 up, 968 down and 869 unchanged.

NYSE volume totaled 478.55 million shares as of 4 p.m., vs. 441.41 million in the previous session.

The Nasdaq composite index fell 9.01 to 1,241.98, while the American Stock Exchange's market value index rose 0.87 to 577.39.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various stocks like Bank Leumi, Bank Hapoalim, etc.

Two-sided trading

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various stocks like Bank Leumi, Bank Hapoalim, etc.

Commercial Banks

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists Bank Leumi, Bank Hapoalim, etc.

Industrials

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various industrial companies.

Mortgage Banks & Finance

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various mortgage and finance companies.

Financial Institutions

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various financial institutions.

Trade & Services

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various trade and service companies.

Property, Building & Agriculture

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various property and building companies.

Oil Exploration

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various oil exploration companies.

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Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, Volume, % Change. Lists various parallel listed companies.

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Key Representative Rates

Table showing US dollar, Sterling, and Mark rates against NIS.

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

Table showing NYSE, NASDAQ, and other market indexes.

NYSE stocks

Table showing NYSE stock performance.

Other stock market indexes

Table showing various other stock market indexes.

Israeli stocks in US

Table showing Israeli stocks listed in the US market.

Commodity Trading Ltd.

Table showing commodity trading information.

NEW YORK MONEY MARKETS

Table showing New York money market rates.

Dollar crossrates (US)

Table showing dollar crossrates.

Labor rates

Table showing labor rates.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd.

Table showing foreign financial data.

NEW YORK COMMODITIES AND METALS

Table showing New York commodities and metals prices.

US commodities

Table showing US commodity prices.

London commodities

Table showing London commodity prices.

Spot metal prices (US)

Table showing spot metal prices.

New York metal futures

Table showing New York metal futures prices.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES table showing exchange rates for various currencies.

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page.

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GENERAL ASSISTANCE

GENERAL ASSISTANCE EMERGENCY PHARMACIES
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Jerusalem: Jaffa Gate, 626-3898; Baisam, Salah e-Din, 627-2315; Shufat, Shaluf Road, 651-0198; Dar Alkawa, Herzl's Gate, 828-2058.
Tel Aviv: Bloch, 32 Bloch, 622-6425; Pharmad, 41 Yirmeyahu (next to Pe'er Cinema), 544-2050.
Ra'anana-Kfar Savar: Hadarim, Yoeseft, Kfar Sava, 765-2520.
Netanya: Hanassi, 35 Weizmann, 823-839.
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Netanya: Hanassi, 35 Weizmann, 823-839.
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Beit She'an holds Kitan solidarity strike

DAVID RUDGE

BEIT SHE'AN workers all went on strike yesterday in solidarity with the plight of workers at the town's threatened Kitan textile plant.

Protesters burned tires and blocked the town's four entrances on several occasions. Police kept a low profile, however, and eventually persuaded the protesters to disperse.

At a rally outside the local Histadrut offices, speakers denounced Kitan's decision to close the finishing plant and transfer its operations to the company's Dimona plant.

"I have worked for Kitan for 30 years. We are all one family here," said Shaul Malka, a member of the works committee at the plant.

"What management has done is a great injustice, not just to us but to the greater family of Beit She'an itself," said Malka. "We are fighting here for our livelihoods and the opportunity to work, not for villas or for Volvo cars but simply for the right to earn our daily bread honorably."

Malka said the general strike in the township had given him and the rest of the workers hope and strength to continue their struggle.

"There is still a chance that the plant will be reopened and we will be able to resume work there. The [general] strike gave me a sense of solidarity - that the rest of the

town is with us in our fight and that is why we will continue," said Malka.

Several Knesset members took part in the rally yesterday and vowed to help prevent the plant from closing.

Lod Mayor Maxim Levy, brother of foreign minister and Beit She'an resident David Levy, stressed that the development town vote and been crucial in bringing this government to power, and that the government now had an obligation to residents of these areas.

Pinni Kabalo, head of the Histadrut branch in Beit She'an said the solidarity strike yesterday was not just for the workers of the Kitan textile factory but for the whole town.

"It was agreed that a caucus would be established in the Knesset, including David Levy, to fight for the reopening of the Kitan textile plant, and the members of the caucus promised that if the government refused to help they would vote with the opposition in the proposed no-confidence vote next week," said Kabalo.

He said that from Sunday, a protest tent would be pitched outside the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem to press the government to deal with the plight of the Kitan workers and to create jobs in Beit She'an.



Mayor Ehud Olmert and Lynn Schusterman attend yesterday's dedication of the Succat Shalom Jerusalem Schusterman Center for Children and Families, designed to help combat child abuse. The Schusterman family foundation made a significant contribution to the \$2.4 million center. (Joe Malcolm)

Ethiopian leaders divided over bringing Falash Mura here

BATSHEVA TSUR and JUDY SIEGEL

THE Health Ministry will soon give the cabinet a highly detailed proposal for promoting AIDS prevention in the Ethiopian community. Although the costs have not yet been worked out, Dr. Zvi Ben-Yishai, head of the ministry's AIDS steering committee, believes the project can be tackled with help from other ministries and voluntary organizations.

The issue of HIV among Ethiopian immigrants, which triggered a violent demonstration in Jerusalem earlier this year over Magen David Adom's refusal to use blood donated by them, was raised again this week. This time, it involved the 2,500 Falash Mura, Ethiopian Jews forced to convert to Christianity, living in the Israeli Embassy compound in Addis Ababa while awaiting permission to come here.

Two years ago, Ethiopian Jews here demonstrated to demand that Falash Mura be allowed to come here under the Law of Return, but there is now a divergence of views.

Shlomo Mula, secretary of the Unified Ethiopian-Immigrants' Organization, stated yesterday that their aliya should be barred because 10 percent of them are HIV carriers.

But MK Adisu Massala (Labor), the organization's head, demanded they be allowed in and accused the establishment of being responsible for delays that resulted in their infection abroad.

"The government must do something immediately. These people are living in sub-human conditions and, if there is a 10% incidence of AIDS among them now, I hate to think what other diseases they will contract if they continue coming at such a slow pace," Massala retorted.

Massala charged that the present government has "not implemented even one of the decisions" taken by the previous government after the violent riots.

"I call on Prime Minister [Binyamin] Netanyahu to do so and to make arrangements for all those in Addis to come immediately," he said. "About the remainder of Ethiopians who call themselves Falash Mura (various) I estimated to number between 30,000 and several million, new decisions can be taken later." Massala flatly denied a report that the com-

munity is trying to prevent the remaining Falash Mura from coming. He said that Mula "has always been opposed to them because they are Christians."

Mula said the 500 HIV carriers among Ethiopian Jews from two waves of immigration, especially Operation Solomon, are "enough," and that adding another dozen or so each week is not a good idea.

Both Massala and former health minister MK Ephraim Sneh argued that it is impossible to halt the arrival of people whose immigration has already been approved. Sneh added that "previous ethnic groups who had various infectious diseases were allowed to immigrate despite their health."

Ben-Yishai said that contrary to the situation before the blood-donation uproar, "leaders of the Ethiopian immigrant community are now working with us in full cooperation" to educate themselves about the disease and how to prevent it from spreading.

The AIDS danger to non-Ethiopians is minimal, the risk is among themselves, he said. It is World Health Organization policy, he added, to prevent HIV carriers from immigrating.

Sara Netanyahu's ex-hubbie nixes book

JUDY SIEGEL and news agencies

THE first husband of Sara Netanyahu has dropped plans to write a kiss-and-tell book about their marriage, a friend said yesterday.

The ex-husband, Doron Neuberger, 37, of Kibbutz Ga'ash, has told kibbutz members that he changed his mind and would not write the book, kibbutz secretary Danny Kait said.

Israel Radio said Neuberger announced the decision after being told he could not stay at the kibbutz if he wrote it. Kait denied yesterday that Neuberger had been given an ultimatum.

Neuberger never discussed his book plans in public, but Israeli media reported earlier this month

that he decided to write the unflattering memoirs because he was "horrified" at reports suggesting she had a say in sensitive affairs of state.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's aides had met several times with Neuberger in unsuccessful appeals to drop the project.

Meanwhile, Netanyahu's elder son Yair was yesterday treated at Hadassah-University Hospital for dislocation of two front teeth and trauma to his upper lip. The four-year-old boy, who was in great pain, had tripped while running and fallen on his face, a hospital

spokesman said.

He was brought to the Ein Kerem hospital by his mother Sara. Later, his father arrived at the hospital as well. Prof. Arye Steiner, a maxillo-facial expert, examined and treated him. He said that there was no danger the teeth would be lost, but asked that the boy be brought back next week for examination.

Less than two weeks ago, his younger brother Avner was rushed to Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Hospital, where he was treated for a dislocated shoulder. His mother said the injury had occurred when he was playing at home. Doctors quickly reset the bone in its socket and he was taken home.

WEATHER

Forecast: Heat wave. Slight relief: Heat wave, which will cool off in the evening.

AROUND THE WORLD

	C	F	C	F	prob.
Amsterdam	05	41	14	57	cloudy
Berlin	06	43	15	59	clear
Brussels	07	45	16	61	clear
Chicago	16	61	21	70	clear
Copenhagen	10	50	15	59	cloudy
Frankfurt	09	48	13	56	clear
Helsinki	08	46	13	56	cloudy
London	07	45	13	56	clear
Madrid	09	48	13	56	clear
Moscow	02	36	08	46	clear
Paris	08	46	13	56	clear
Rome	09	48	13	56	clear
Stockholm	05	41	14	57	cloudy
Sydney	19	66	18	64	clear
Tokyo	13	55	18	64	clear
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